

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES

August 29, 2009

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Special Session at 8:10 a.m. in the Fire Training Facility on the 29th day of August, 2009, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Fire Training Facility at 2207 Goddard Avenue, the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and the Norman Public Library at 225 North Webster 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Atkins, Butler, Cubberley,
Dillingham, Ezzell, Griffith, Kovach, Quinn,
Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: None

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Item 1, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT 12 TO 18 MONTHS.

Mayor Rosenthal recognized Council's accomplishments and projects over the past year and said many items on the 2008-2009 Policy Calendar were completed, others were added during the year, and others are not yet complete and will require additional work. The following list highlights some of the accomplishments and on-going projects:

- Community Oriented Policing (COP) Program [COP Work Plan currently underway]
- Ethics Policy
- Public Safety Sales Tax approval
- Storm Water Master Plan and Greenway/Trails Master Plan [consultant completed/Council to determine final plan and establish implementation program]
- Animal Welfare ordinance changes
- Mixed Use Development [further study regarding ordinances/policies]
- Westwood Business Plan
- Citizen Survey
- Parks Master Plan [consultant nearing completion]
- Americans Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Stimulus Projects/submission of grant applications
- Traffic Calming Program review

Councilmembers reviewed summaries of the 2009 Community Dialogue meeting; the survey completed by the University of Oklahoma Public Opinion Learning Laboratory in 2007; the survey completed in conjunction with the Parks Master Plan; and the 2009 City of Norman Community Survey.

Councilmembers discussed the 2009-2010 Policy Calendar, which included items identified in the 2006 Citizen Community Survey; Storm Water Master Plan/Greenway Master Plan and accompanying projects; Parks Master Plan and accompanying projects; public safety issues; transportation projects and issues; water needs; City facilities assessment; unfunded and ongoing capital projects; and development issues.

Recognizing the number and magnitude of projects to be completed within the next year, some of which are currently in progress, Councilmembers prioritized items on the 2009-2010 Policy Calendar and identified projects/policies which could potentially be deferred to a future date.

Those projects identified as the highest priority for additional study and/or discussions are as follows:

- Storm Water Master Plan & Greenway/Trails Master Plan
- Parks Master Plan
- Porter Corridor Study
- SE Oklahoma Water Supply – long term water needs
- Charter amendments

Other projects and issues identified, some of which are ongoing, include:

- City Facilities Assessment
- Legacy Park
- Roads/street maintenance and traffic issues
- Citywide proactive code enforcement
- Outdoor warning sirens
- Local preference purchases
- Redevelopment strategies
- Long term solution for Municipal Court
- New Library
- Subdivision Ordinance review
- Substandard Housing Policy
- Outdoor lighting issues
- Central Area Rapid Transit (CART) expansion and partnership opportunities

Councilmembers discussed authorizing an election to continue the five year General Obligation Bond funding for road/street improvement projects. The existing program was approved by the voters in May 2005 and will expire in 2010. Street maintenance was identified in the recent Citizen Survey as an area needing high efforts and survey respondents indicated strong support for an additional five year program. Mayor Rosenthal said if Council authorized a March election, \$19 million worth of projects could be completed over five years with no additional tax increase.

Councilmembers also discussed the possibility of adding the Outdoor Warning System Project to the bond issue, which is estimated at \$2.5 million. Discussion continued relative to the amount of authorization Council should consider for streets and the outdoor warning system and it was noted that \$23 million would increase the property taxes approximately one percent.

Staff will prepare a list of potential streets and associated costs to be submitted for Council's review.

Additionally, Councilmembers discussed whether to spend additional funds for further engineering study on the I-35 frontage roads, one-way vs. two-way, and it was the consensus of Council not to continue more study since the Oklahoma Department of Transportation had indicated there was no funding available in the current Eight Year Plan to address any changes.

Items submitted for the record

1. Memorandum dated August 27, 2009, from Cindy Rosenthal, Mayor, and Steve Lewis, City manager, to Councilmembers
2. 10 Habits of Highly Effective Councils dated November 1997 by Carl Neu, Jr., Neu and Company and the Center for the Future of Local Governance, 1997, *Public Management Magazine*
3. City Council House Rules adopted August, 2005
4. Suggested Norms for Effective Boards adopted from various sources including "Groundrules for Effective Groups" by Roger Schwarz in *Popular Government*
5. Summary of High Performing Governing Body, (source) John Nalbandian, University of Kansas
6. 2006 Norman Community Dialogue, excerpts from the Executive Summary
7. Highlights of the City of Norman Survey conducted by the University of Oklahoma Public Opinion Learning Laboratory
8. A Legacy for the Next Generation: Norman Parks and Recreation Master Plan Open House, August 12, 2009, survey results
9. 2009 City of Norman Community Survey Final Report prepared by ETC Institute dated August, 2009
10. 2009-2010 Policy Calendar

Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager

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Item 2 being:

CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY OKLAHOMA STATUTES TITLE 25 § 307(B)(1) IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE CITY MANAGER AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 5(A) OF CONTRACT NO. K-0708-32.

Councilmember Quinn moved that the Special Session be adjourned out of and an Executive Session be convened into in order to evaluate the City Manager as required by Section 5(a) of Contract No. K-0708-32, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Griffith; and the question being upon adjourning out of the Special Session and the subsequent convening, a vote was taken with the following result:

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| YEAS: | Councilmembers Atkins, Butler, Cubberley, Dillingham, Ezzell, Griffith, Kovach, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal |
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| NAYES: | None |
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The Mayor declared the motion carried and the Special Session adjourned out of; and an Executive Session was convened into in order to evaluate the City Manager as required by Section 5(a) of Contract No. K-0708-32.

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager; was in attendance at the Executive Session.

Councilmember Kovach left the Executive Session prior to its conclusion.

Thereupon, Councilmember Quinn moved that Executive Session be adjourned out of and the Special Session be reconvened, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Dillingham; and the question being upon adjourning out of Executive Session and upon the subsequent reconvening, a vote was taken with the following result:

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| YEAS: | Councilmembers Atkins, Butler, Cubberley, Dillingham, Ezzell, Griffith, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal |
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| NAYES: | None |
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The Mayor declared the motion carried and Executive Session adjourned out of; and the Special Session was reconvened at 12:20 p.m.

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The Mayor said the evaluation of the City Manager as required by Section 5(a) of Contract No. K-0708-32 was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken and no votes were cast.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Quinn moved that the meeting be adjourned, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Cubberley; and the question being upon adjournment of the meeting, a vote was taken with the following result:

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| YEAS: | Councilmembers Atkins, Butler, Cubberley, Dillingham, Ezzell, Griffith, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal |
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| NAYES: | None |
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The Mayor declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor